

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No. 056203.52940US	Serial No. To Be Assigned
		Applicant: Toshio MANAKA		
		Filing Date November 25, 2003	Group	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	TRANSLATION
							Yes No
<i>M</i>	AK	2001-163198	06/2001	Japan			Abstract
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
EXAMINER <i>Phelaxie Torres</i>		DATE CONSIDERED <i>12-12-04</i>					
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.							



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known													
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/720,481</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>November 25, 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Toshio MANAKA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>3683</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>056203.52940US</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/720,481	Filing Date	November 25, 2003	First Named Inventor	Toshio MANAKA	Art Unit	3683	Examiner Name		Attorney Docket Number	056203.52940US
Application Number	10/720,481																
Filing Date	November 25, 2003																
First Named Inventor	Toshio MANAKA																
Art Unit	3683																
Examiner Name																	
Attorney Docket Number	056203.52940US																
Sheet	1	of	1														

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
YMS		DE 101 18 262 A1	10-17-2002	WEIBERLE et al.	AB
		DE 198 26 130 A1	12-16-1999	WEIBERLE et al.	AB
		DE 198 38 885 A1	03-02-2000	WINNER et al.	AB
		DE 198 38 886 A1	10-07-1999	BALZ et al.	AB
		DE 199 01 581 A1	05-11-2000	HEICHEL	AB
YMS		EP 1 085 240 A1	03-21-2001	TAMASHO, et al.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
		European Office-Action			

Examiner Signature	<i>Melanie. Lasser</i>	Date Considered	12-12-04
--------------------	------------------------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.